

10/030173

531 Rec'd CT/PT 31 JAN 2002

217838US-0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

HERMANN PUETTER ET AL. :

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN. : ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH  
(Based on PCT/EP00/07026)

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: PREPARATION OF ALPHA-OXIDIZED  
CARBONYL COMPOUNDS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

4/A  
CA

6/26/02

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy following this amendment to read as follows:

5. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, where the compound of the formula I is 2,2,3,3-tetramethoxypropanol, and the starting compound employed is methylglyoxal dimethyl acetal.

6. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, where the anions of the metal salt (S) are derived from mineral acids.